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There are, in all, 20 houses, with 127 persons—large and small. There is at present no one sick with any kind of fever. The woman previously reported sick is now in full convalescence. No diagnosis can be made from her present condition, and from her history no safe diagnosis can be arrived at.

There has not been any sickness at Tordillo since the last months of 1903, during which time the people who were sick claim to have had fever and chills either every day, or every third day, slight headache, no pains in body, and very little vomiting. From this I judge that they suffered from malaria.

All the families were inspected by me, and they were encouraged to speak of last year's illness, in their own words, no questions being asked.

The water supply is mainly from water holes existing in an arroyo, which runs between these settlements. These holes have minnows and frogs in them. There are only two wells, one at the east settlement (of four houses) and one at the west settlement (of two houses). All places keep water in barrels, the supply being renewed every two or three days, most persons having only one-half barrel of water in the house at a time.

There are at present no mosquitoes and ventilation is good, as there is always a strong southeast wind blowing.

All the houses, with the exception of two, are built of logs, with mud filling the interstices, and with thatched roof. The surrounding country is very dry at present.

If we may rely upon the individual statements of the families that were sick in 1903, I am of the opinion that they had malaria. Furthermore, from conversation with principal settlers, one of whom was sick in 1903, I inferred that he was sick in 1885, in Laredo; with what was called dengue, having had a severe attack. He states that most of the people who were sick then were yellow, and that he turned yellow and was afraid that he had the "mal amarillo." This year none had the yellow appearance, and none had the pains they experienced in 1885.

Summary.—At the present time no diagnosis can be made of the convalescent at Tordillo, who was sick about two and a half weeks, and there are no other sick.

The source of water supply is not hygienic, and the people were advised to boil their drinking water.

Twenty families, consisting of 127 persons, and 23 barrels, were inspected. No wigglers were found.

Each settlement is at sufficient distance from the other to isolate any sick person and not contaminate other settlements.

Disinfection done two weeks ago, and also three days ago.

Respectfully,

E. H. SAUVIGNET,
Temporary Acting Assistant Surgeon.
MEDICAL OFFICER IN COMMAND,
Laredo, Tex.

Precautionary measures at Laredo.

LAREDO, TEX., *March 26, 1904.*

SIR: Referring to Bureau telegram of the 16th instant, ordering me to proceed to Laredo and report to Bureau all facts bearing upon pre-

vention and recrudescence of yellow fever, and upon prevention of the introduction from Mexico, I have the honor to report as follows:

As the Bureau is aware, from telegrams from Acting Assistant Surgeon Frick, there have been 2 cases pronounced yellow fever in Laredo and vicinity. The first, or Laredo case, was seen by the attending physician, Doctor Lowry, on Friday, March 11, in the third day of disease, and was immediately screened by him. The second case was not seen until March 18, although the patient was taken sick on March 14, at Minera. This case was never screened, having been en route between Minera, Palafox, and Laredo until seen by Doctor Frick.

Disinfection, as reported by Doctor Frick, was thoroughly done in the localities occupied by these patients.

These are the only cases so far discovered, and the house to house inspections have not revealed any others.

There will probably be other recrudescences from time to time, but I believe that with an energetic antimosquito campaign, such as is being inaugurated, in conjunction with a daily house-to-house inspection, there will be no spread from these.

In regard to the prevention of introduction from Mexico, I believe the present system of inspection is as efficient as any line of guards would be, unless an absolute nonintercourse quarantine were declared; and even then the guarding of the frontier in this locality would be extremely difficult, because of the number of fords and skiffs in the river.

The stationing of an officer of the Service in Monterey, Mexico, to keep the Bureau informed of conditions there, is, in my opinion, necessary.

In regard to present conditions in Monterey, I would say that Doctor Martínez, the city health officer of Monterey, called upon me yesterday. He stated that there was now no fever there; that much post-epidemic disinfection had been done in that city; that during the coming season a five days' detention would be imposed on all nonimmunes coming from Tampico to Monterey; and that all freight and cars would be twice disinfected en route from Tampico to Monterey—this latter over the Monterey and Mexican Gulf (Mexican Central) Railroad.

Passengers coming from Tampico via San Luis Potosi, however, were not provided for in these plans.

Respectfully,

T. F. RICHARDSON,
Assistant Surgeon.

The SURGEON-GENERAL.

Suggested amendment to city ordinance relative to precautions against yellow fever.

LAREDO, TEX., *March 25, 1904.*

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Bureau letter of the 21st instant, transmitting outline plan of operations considered necessary at the present time in Laredo, and which will be put in operation as rapidly as possible.

Part of the matter contained in the memorandum in question is covered by city ordinance, passed October 30, 1903—copy of which is inclosed (inclosure No. 1); and in addition, I have requested that the council pass an ordinance covering the matters in the inclosed memorandum (inclosure No. 2).